



1745

PATENT  
Docket No. 10517/16

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4.10.02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : Seiji MIZUNO  
Serial No. : 09/232,498  
Filed : January 15, 1999  
For : SEPARATOR FOR FUEL CELL AND  
MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR THE SAME  
Group Art Unit : 1745  
Examiner : M. RUTHKOSKY

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington D.C. 20231

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 28, 2001, the Applicant respectfully submits the following remarks. The Applicant respectfully requests a two-month Extension of Time to respond to the Office Action. The extended period expires on April 28, 2002.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to clearly define the "reaction byproduct gas." In addition, claims 1-3, 5-8 and 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,643,956 to Sandelli, *et al.* ("Sandelli") in view of JP 59042781. Finally, claims 4, 9 and 10 are allowed.

The Applicant has reviewed the November 28, 2001 Office Action, and respectfully submits the following remarks in response thereto. The Applicant is grateful for the Examiners' indication that claims 4, 9 and 10 are allowed.

In view of the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-8 and 11-12.

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